

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/990,569	MAR, AARON S.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Ciara Martin	2157	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS**. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 5/18/05.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4,6,7,9-11,19,23,24,26,28,29,31,33,41 and 44.
3. The drawings filed on 11/21/01 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some* c) None of the:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.



SALEH NAJJAR
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the after final amendment filed on May 18, 2205.

Claims 1-2, 4, 6-7, 9-11, 19, 23-24, 26, 28-29, 31, 33, 41 and 44 were amended.

Claims 3, 8, 13-18, 22, 25, 30 and 35-40 were canceled. Claims 1-2, 4, 6-7, 9-11, 19, 23-24, 26, 28-29, 31, 33, 41 and 44 are pending.

2. Claims 1-2, 4, 6-7, 9-11, 19, 23-24, 26, 28-29, 31, 33, 41 and 44 are allowed.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.109 and M.P.E.P. 1302.14, the following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

The prior art of record fails to teach neither singly nor in combination the claimed limitations of "method and apparatus for policy change characterization comprising:

(a) verifying each class of the new policy tree with respect to remaining classes of the new policy tree to avoid conflicts when the new policy tree is merged into a merged policy tree; (b) associating the merged policy tree with a termination point to activate the merged policy tree on the termination point; and (c) processing data packets using a packet processing pipeline according to the merged policy tree; wherein each class comprises one or more classification rules, QoS requirements, and a classification mask to specify which dimensions are specified in terms of the one or more classification rules, where the classification mask comprises:

- a. bit 0 to indicate a source IP address;

- b. bit 1 to indicate a destination IP address;
- c. bit 2 to indicate a source TCP/UDP port;
- d. bit 3 to indicate a destination TCP/UDP port;
- e. bit 4 to indicate an incoming port;
- f. bit 5 to indicate a type of service byte;
- g. bit 6 to indicate a type of protocol used; and
- h. bit 7 to indicate a TCP ACK flag"

as in claims 1, 23 and 44.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ciara Martin whose telephone number is 571-272-7507. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:30- 4:00 with second Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on 571-272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

CM
6/6/05

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "CM".